

City Council Education Committee  
Hears Presentation from  
Teaching Responsible Earth Education Program

News Release

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*Councilmember Hedge-Morrell*

New Orleans, LA - August 5, 2009 - Today, the City Council Education Committee heard a presentation from Debi Theobald, Coordinator of Earthkeepers Program for Teaching Responsible Earth Education (T.R.E.E.) program.

Earthkeepers, a three-day outdoor classroom program for fourth grade students, is a curriculum-based environmental science program in which students learn basic scientific concepts including energy flow, cycles, interrelationships and change. Students also explore the natural world with the goal of using their knowledge and awareness to make personal commitments for environmental change.



*Debi Theobald, Coord. of Earthkeepers Program for T.R.E.E., along with two T.R.E.E. Staffers*

The program takes place at Jean Lafitte's National Historic Park and Preserve and at T.R.E.E.'s outdoor classroom. The program is offered to New Orleans area students from November through February.

Education Committee Chair Councilmember Cynthia Hedge-Morrell said, "This program is fantastic. I want the public to know about it, so more of our young people can participate."

For more information on the T.R.E.E. program visit [www.treetalk.org](http://www.treetalk.org).

New Orleans City Council

The New Orleans City Council is the legislative branch of New Orleans City government. The Council considers and enacts all local laws that govern the City of New Orleans. The Council also approves

the operating and capital budgets for the City, as recommended by the mayor, and continually monitors revenues and expenditures for local government operations. The City Council is also the regulatory body for public utilities. It also reviews and has final say on many land use and zoning matters, as well as considers major economic development projects for the City. As a Board of Review for Orleans Parish, the Council examines appeals of property tax assessments for real estate taxes, and certifies tax rolls to the Louisiana Tax Commission. Other responsibilities of the Council include overseeing the operation of the public access television in Orleans Parish.

The City Council is comprised of five districts and two councilmembers-at-large. Council President and Councilmember-at-Large Arnie Fielkow; Council Vice President and Councilmember-at-Large Jacquelyn Brechtel Clarkson; District "A" Councilmember Shelley Midura; District "B" Councilmember Stacy S. Head; District "C" Councilmember James Carter; District "D" Councilmember Cynthia Hedge-Morrell; and District "E" Councilmember Cynthia Willard-Lewis.